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BOROUGH OF TIPTON



Annual Report

of the

Medical Officer of Health

(W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.)

including that of the

Chief Sanitary Inspector

(G. H. ACTON, M.S.I.A.)

FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER
1953

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PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(at 31st December, 1953)

Chairman : Alderman Mrs. H. G. COX

Vice-Chairman : Councillor Mrs. O. G. GUTTERIDGE

Aldermen A. E. Bolton, W. E. Hampton and W. H. Hirons,
Councillors T. Cartwright, F. A. Chamberlain, J. Church-
man, F. R. Cooper, J. Gill, A. E. Newey, E. Northall and
J. E. Salter.

STAFF

Medical Officer of Health :

W. AULAY McLENNAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

**Chief Sanitary Inspector and
Cleansing Superintendent :**

* G. H. ACTON, M.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors :

* W. J. HEMMINGS, M.S.I.A.

* E. K. PHIPPS, M.S.I.A.

* J. G. DAVIES, M.S.I.A.

Cleansing Inspector :

A. HOLDEN, A.M. Inst. P.C.

Clerks :

MRS. J. SLIM

MISS B. D. MOON.

(5th January, 1953.)

* Qualified Meat Inspector.

Public Health Department,
Municipal Buildings,
Tipton.

October, 1954.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health of the Borough for the year 1953.

The estimated population as calculated by the Registrar General was 39,250, a decrease of 110 on the year 1952.

The live birth rate was higher than that of 1952, and 18 per cent higher than the provisional rate for England and Wales for 1953.

The infant mortality rate was disappointing and I make comment on this in the body of the report.

The incidence of measles was high, but there were no deaths from this disease. Eight cases of diphtheria were notified, but there is no reason whatsoever why this number should not be reduced to nil if all parents of young children would accept the immunisation services which are offered to them.

The repair of houses occupies a foremost place in the work of the department, but some of this is disappointing in its results since it sometimes means attempts at repairing houses which are virtually beyond repair. The time is now ripe for more active measures to be taken in the demolition and clearance of old houses and a comprehensive report on this will shortly be presented to the Council. This is not to say that nothing has been done in the year 1953, but it is hoped that the greater powers now to be given in these matters will enable more to be done in the clearance and replacement of property which has long since worn out.

I am grateful for the continued interest and encouragement in matters concerning the health of the Borough which have been shown by the Chairmen of the Health and Housing Committees. I am also conscious of the fact that the measure of success achieved in the work of the Public Health Department is due to the industry and loyalty of the staff.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

W. A. McLENNAN.

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION I.

SECTION I. — STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	2,167
Population (1931 census)	35,814
Population (1951 census)	39,382
Population 1952 (Registrar General's estimate)	39,360
Population 1953 (Registrar General's estimate-mid year Population)	39,250
No. of inhabited houses, 31st December, 1953	10,532
No. of separate families	11,310
Rateable Value (31st March, 1953)	£155,690
Sum represented by a penny rate (31st March, 1953)	£616

It will be seen that the population of the Borough which was 39,382 at the 1951 census, decreased to 39,360 (estimated) in 1952 and further decreased to 39,250 as estimated by the Registrar General for 1953. Such a decrease is relatively insignificant of course, but the known facts suggest that these estimates are erroneous. The natural increase of population in 1952, that is the excess of births over deaths during that year was 209 and in 1953 the natural increase was 394. It is admitted that the natural increases in population do not take into account movements of population into and out of the borough but even making considerable allowance for these, it is patent that the estimated population in both 1952 and 1953 should have shown increases and not decreases.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Live Births.					Male.	Female.	Total
Legitimate	...	...	...	...	364	352	716
Illegitimate	...	...	...	...	8	10	18
					372	362	734

The crude birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated population for 1953 is 18.70. The comparability factor provided by the Registrar General (.98) brings this to a rate of 18.32 per thousand population, which is the standardised birth rate for 1953.

The following table shows the birth rates in Tipton Borough since 1944.

Live Births (Table I)

Year	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Legitimate	798	722	790	839	786	735	675	711	673	716
Illegitimate	27	23	18	26	20	26	25	12	13	18
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	22.88	20.72	21.57	22.65	20.87	19.56	17.82	18.01	17.08	18.32

Compared with the provisional rate for England and Wales, viz. 15.5 per thousand, Tipton's birth rate is favourable.

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Stillbirths	...	...	...	...	5	8	13'
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths	...	...	...	...	...	...	17.40

The stillbirth rate per 1,000 estimated population for 1953 for Tipton is 0.33, the provisional figure for England and Wales being 0.35.

Stillbirths (Table 2)

Year	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Stillbirth rate per 100 live & stillbirths	17.86	26.14	30.01	22.59	24.21	20.59	31.81	19.00	26.95	17.40

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths	...	...	...	...	199	141	340

The crude death rate per 1,000 estimated population for Tipton for 1953 is therefore 8.66. The comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General for Tipton is 1.30. The crude death rate of 8.66 therefore becomes standardised to a rate of 11.26 per 1,000 estimated population.

Maternal Deaths.

There was one maternal death during the year.

					Male.	Female.	Total.
Deaths of Infants under one year.	...	...	...	...	17	9	26

This gives an Infant Mortality Rate of 35.42 per 1,000 live births and a rate of 34.81 per 1,000 live and stillbirths. 1952 figures were 27.70 and 26.95 respectively.

The following table shows an analysis of infant deaths.

(Table 3)

Cause of Death				From birth to 1 month (neo-natal)		From 1 to 12 months		Total Infant Deaths
				M.	F.	M.	F.	
1.	Gastro-intestinal infective disease (enteritis, diarrhoea, etc.)	...	...	—	—	1	—	1
2.	Other infective conditions (broncho-pneumonia, bronchitis, etc.)	...	...	1	1	5	3	10
3.	Non-infective conditions	...	...	—	1	2	1	4
4.	Congenital malformations	...	...	1	1	—	—	2
5.	Obstetrical injuries	...	...	2	2	—	—	4
6.	Serious accidents	...	...	1	—	—	—	1
7.	Unknown causes, e.g. Prematurity	...	...	4	—	—	—	4
TOTALS				9	5	8	4	26

It will be observed from the foregoing table that the neo-natal deaths, i.e. deaths of children within the first month are accounted for largely by injury at birth, prematurity and congenital malformations whereas the infective conditions (categories 1 and 2) account for most of the deaths in later months.

One deplores the fact of this high infant mortality rate in later months of the first year of life, since these are essentially the preventable deaths, due to faults in the environment of the child and not due to inherent defect or weakness. Overcrowding in houses and particularly in bedrooms, insanitary living conditions and maternal ignorance of hygienic measures were the factors largely responsible.

**Comparative Birth and Death Rates, 1953, per 1,000
civilian population (Table 4)**

					Live Birth Rate	Stillbirth Rate	Death Rate
England and Wales	...	...	...		15.5	.35	11.4
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)			...		17.0	.43	12.2
160 Smaller Towns (25,000 to 50,000 population at 1951 census)			...		15.7	.34	11.3
London Administrative County			...		17.5	.38	12.5
TIPTON	...	...	...	...	18.32	.33	11.26
					Standardised		Standardised

**Comparative Infant Mortality Rates, 1953,
per 1,000 live births (Table 5)**

					Deaths of Infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births.
England and Wales	...	...	...		26.8
160 County Boroughs and Great Towns (including London)			...	...	30.8
160 Smaller Towns (25,000—50,000 Population at 1951 census)			...		24.3
London Administrative County			...		24.8
TIPTON	...	...	...	...	35.42

The following table gives the causes of death during 1953.

Detailed Causes of Death (Registrar General's figures) (Table 6)

Disease						M.	F.	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	1	—	1
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
7.	Acute poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	3	5	8
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	10	2	12
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	5	5
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	13	8	21
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	25	25	50
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	18	12	30
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
20.	Other heart disease	...	...	...	...	29	32	61
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	4	2	6
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	13	6	19
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	22	8	30
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	7	—	7
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	6	2	8
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	3	—	3
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	5	2	7
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	1	1
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	15	18	33
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	...	2	—	2
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	7	2	9
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—	—
TOTAL (all causes)						199	141	340

The following table gives the nine chief causes of death in their order.

(Table 7)

Cause of Death						M.	F.	Total.	% of total deaths in 1953	% of total deaths in 1952
Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	...	50	45	95	27.94	27.59
Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	...	25	25	50	14.71	14.06
Cancer	...	...	...	...	...	26	20	46	13.53	13.79
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	...	15	18	33	9.71	11.41
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	22	8	30	8.82	8.49
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	...	13	6	19	5.59	4.24
Other accidents apart from motor vehicle accidents...	...	...	...	...	...	7	2	9	2.65	2.92
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	8	2.35	5.04
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	...	6	2	8	2.35	1.33

The standardised death rate for the year 1953 for Tipton has again declined to 11.26 per 1,000 estimated population, having been 12.45 per 1,000 for 1952 and 14.66 per 1,000 for 1951.

Deaths from cancer have declined from 52 to 46 although the disease retains third place in the causes of death. Tuberculosis as a cause of death has declined to 8 whereas last year (1952) it accounted for 19 deaths and occupied fifth place in the table.

The following table shows comparative figures from the year 1944.

(Table 8)

Year	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
No. of deaths	388	394	379	414	401	382	420	440	377	340
Death Rate per 1000 est. res. population	10.45	10.96	10.12	10.84	10.39	9.82	10.69	11.19 Stan. D'th Rate 14.66	9.58 Stan. D'th Rate 12.45	8.66 Stan. D'th Rate 11.26
Maternal deaths	2	2	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	1
Maternal death rate	2.42	2.68	—	1.13	—	2.57	1.38	—	—	1.34
Infant deaths (under 1 yr.)	44	43	32	46	44	33	24	26	19	26
Infantile Mor- tality Rate	55.76	57.72	39.22	53.18	54.59	43.36	34.28	35.96	27.70	35.42

SECTION II.

SECTION II.—PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following tables give particulars of the incidence of notifiable diseases and the number of deaths certified as due to these.

Incidence of Infectious Disease (Table 9)

Disease				Number of Cases							
				1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	55	54	74	42	84	53	67	44
Diphtheria	...	...	...	19	8	6	8	1	14	5	8
Measles	...	...	...	23	554	319	362	82	798	267	403
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	84	86	49	46	65	134	52	120
Pneumonia	...	...	...	70	30	24	24	19	44	28	34
Erysipelas	...	...	...	7	5	8	3	2	1	3	—
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	4	2	—	—	—	3	2	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	5	—	—	20	1	1	1
Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	4
Puerperal Pyrexia	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	5	2	—	1
Enteric Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Para-typhoid Fever	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Food Poisoning	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	...	...	...	3	1	1	—	1	—	—	—

Deaths from Infectious Disease (Table 10)

Disease				Number of Deaths (Registrar General's figures)							
				1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953
Diphtheria	...	...	...	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—
Measles	...	...	...	—	3	—	1	1	1	—	—
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	1	3	—	2	—	1	—	1
Pneumonia	...	...	...	13	14	8	16	14	16	16	19
Meningococcal infection	...	...	...	1	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	—	1	1	—	4	—	—	—
Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—

Analysis of Infectious Diseases according to Age Groups (Table II)

Age Groups	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Measles	Whooping Cough	Polio-myelitis
Under 1 year	—	—	26	15	—
1— 2	6	—	118	38	—
3 — 4	11	2	130	40	—
5 — 9	22	4	125	27	—
10 —14	2	2	3	—	—
15 —24	3	—	1	—	—
25 and over	—	—	—	—	1
TOTALS	44	8	403	120	1

Age Groups	Pneumonia	Dysentery	Meningococcal Infection	Puerperal Pyrexia
Under 5 years	7	4	1	—
5 — 14	7	—	—	—
15 — 44	6	—	—	1
45 — 64	6	—	—	—
65 and over	8	—	—	—
TOTALS	34	4	1	1

The above tables (9, 10 and 11) indicate that measles was the predominant infectious disease and that this year was one of a moderately heavy incidence. Only one case of poliomyelitis occurred in an adult. No enteric fever occurred and no cases of food poisoning were reported.

Diphtheria.

Eight cases of diphtheria occurred during the year, all in non-immunised children. It has seemed possible during recent years (since 1947) to keep this disease largely in check and the immunisation of infants and re-immunisation during earlier school years has undoubtedly accomplished this. The average incidence per year since 1947 has been 7 cases. In previous reports I have commented on the fact that the cases all occur in children who have never been immunised or whose immunity has not recently been re-inforced. There seems to remain a small percentage of parents who are quite apathetic to the offer of protection of their children against this dread disease.

Immunisation of infants against diphtheria is carried out by all general practitioners in the borough and is also done at all infant welfare sessions.

The following table shows the number of children who have received a primary immunisation against diphtheria during the year and also those who have had a secondary re-inforcing injection.

(Table 12)

		Age at date of final injection (as regards "A") or of reinforcing injection (as regards "B.")					
		Under 1 yr.	1 yr.	2 yrs.	3 yrs.	4 yrs.	Total
A. Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation...		128	173	27	14	29	712
B. Number of children who received a re-inforcing dose after having had primary injection in earlier years ...		—	—	—	—	24	525

One would like to see the number of primary immunisations in pre-school children higher than it is. The number of school children who receive a primary immunisation course while at school is high and these children should have received their primary course when less than 12 months old and should be receiving a re-inforcing dose at school and not their primary dose.

Whooping Cough.

I made comment in previous reports as to the need for the re-introduction of facilities for immunisation against whooping cough and expressed the hope in my report for 1952 that the Staffordshire County Council would re-introduce this service. This was carried out during the latter part of the year and 30 children completed a course of immunisation against whooping cough.

Tuberculosis.

Fifty nine new cases of tuberculosis were notified during the year and table 13 gives comparative figures with previous years.

(Table 13)

Notifications of Tuberculosis during the last 10 years.			
Year	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Totals
1944	55	4	59
1945	65	8	73
1946	54	17	71
1947	66	8	74
1948	61	12	73
1949	43	10	53
1950	44	5	49
1951	48	2	50
1952	50	5	55
1953	56	3	59

The House Letting and Management Committee has continued to give its sympathetic consideration to families with a tuberculous patient which require rehousing and 20 families have been rehoused during 1953. Provision is always made for a separate bedroom for the patient. In 7 instances the more obvious remedy has been to rehouse a lodger family so that sufficient bedroom accommodation remains for the patient's family.

Analysis of Notifications of Tuberculosis according to Age Groups.

(Table 14)

Age Groups	New Cases					Removals from Register on account of Death, Revised Diagnosis, Recovery, Transfers (position at 31-12-1953.)				
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Total
	M.	F.	M.	F.		M.	F.	M.	F.	
0—1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1
1—5	1	1	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
5—15	2	—	1	—	3	1	—	—	1	2
15—25	10	10	—	—	20	—	—	2	—	2
25—35	7	4	—	1	12	3	2	1	—	6
35—45	6	1	—	—	7	—	2	—	—	2
45—55	3	3	—	—	6	2	—	—	—	2
55—65	6	1	—	—	7	3	—	—	—	3
Over 65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS	36	20	2	1	59	10	4	3	1	18

The total number of cases of Tuberculosis on the Register at 31st December, 1953, was 527 pulmonary and 171 non-pulmonary.

Vaccination.

The following table shows the vaccinations performed during the year.

(Table 15)

		Under 1 year	1—5 years	5—15 years	Over 15 yrs.	Total
Number vaccinated	...	45	7	3	2	57
Number re-vaccinated	...	—	—	—	8	8

SECTION III.

SECTION III. — GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES.

Local Health Services under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946, are administered by the Staffordshire County Council and are not matters for inclusion in this report.

However, a listing of these services may afford help to members of the Council and to the public when it is desired to make use of them or to recommend their use to others.

Prenatal Clinic.

Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton.
Friday, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Child Welfare Centres.

Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton.
Monday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Ocker Hill Wesleyan Chapel, 90, Ocker Hill Road, Tipton.
Tuesday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Tividale Street Methodist Church, Burnt Tree, Tipton.
Wednesday 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Canal Street Methodist Church, Tipton Green, Tipton.
Thursday, 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

Domestic Help Service.

A staff of Domestic Helps is available for attendance at homes within the Borough, in cases of illness or confinement.

Applications for this service should be made to the Area Health Office, Wood Street, Tipton.

Midwifery Service.

The following midwives are now practising in the Borough :

Nurse Chew } 89, Upper Church Lane, Tipton.
Nurse Jones }

Nurse Malpass, 47, Bridge Road, Tipton.

Nurse Rayman, 5, Stella Road, Tipton.

Nurse Perry, 1, Underhill Road, Tipton.

Nurse Wilton, 31, Vernon Avenue, Tipton.

Nurse Williams, 34, Woodcroft Avenue, Tipton. (serves also in Coseley district).

Health Visiting.

This service is carried out for Maternity and Child Welfare and School Health, by two full-time and two part-time Health Visitors, who can be consulted any day at Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton, or at the branch Child Welfare Centres in the Borough.

Home Nursing.

The Home Nursing in the Borough is undertaken by the following nurses :—

Nurse Cotterill, 56, Florence Road, Tipton.

Nurse Wardley, 3, Charles Road, Tipton.

Nurse Hunter, 8, Tame Road, Tipton.

Nurse Slyfield, 54, Leasowe Road, Tipton.

Nurse Chivers, 127, Oval Road, Tipton.

Home Nursing requisites are available on loan from the above nurses or from the Nursing Requisites Depot, at the Central Clinic, Horseley Road, Tipton.

Vaccination.

Vaccination was carried out on request by all general practitioners in the Borough.

Immunisation.

In addition to the facilities available at all Child Welfare Centres and schools for immunisation against diphtheria and whooping cough, immunisation was also undertaken during the year by all general practitioners.

Ambulance Service.

The Ambulance Station covering the Borough Area is at Green Street, Coseley. (Telephone No. Sedgley 3048.)

Day Nursery.

The Toll End Road Nursery continued to operate during the year and 50 places were available.

SECTION IV.

SECTION IV. — HOUSING (Joint Report)

The number of new houses erected in the Borough during 1953 was as follows :

No. of Council houses completed	...	...	64
No. of Council flats completed	...	...	64
Number of houses privately built	...	...	26
			154

The number of new houses erected in the Borough shows an increase of 4 on last year's figure, which was 150. The constitution of the total number erected differs however in that an increased number of flats has been built (64 this year compared with 8 last year).

The comments which I made in my Annual Report for 1952 are still applicable to the housing situation in Tipton, that it would remain the basic public health problem in Tipton for some years to come.

HOUSING STATISTICS

No. of New Houses erected during the year.

(a) By Local Authority	...	...	...	...	128
(b) By other Local Authorities	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) By other Bodies or Persons	...	...	...	...	26

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year :—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	...	...	...	...	307
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose					321
(2) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations	...	...	...	...	Nil
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	39
(4) Number of dwelling houses (excluding those in (3) above) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	...	...	...	...	229

2. Remedy of Defects during the year without service of Formal Notices.

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	170
---	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----

3. Action Under Statutory Powers during the year.

A. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 250

(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—

(a) By Owners 31

(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners ... Nil

B. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 34

(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders 37

4. Housing Act, 1936, Part IV — Overcrowding.

(a) Number of alleged cases of overcrowding investigated during the year 41

(b) Number of cases reported during the year ... 39

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year 98

(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases 396

Housing Act, 1936, — Individual Unfit Houses.

The following 34 premises were represented as being unfit for human habitation and Demolition Orders were made by the Council in each case.

13, 14, 15 and 16, Brown Lion Street.

30, 31, 32 and 1, 2, 3, Court 4, Chapel Street.

16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 1, 2, & 3, Court 1, High Street.

12a, Chaters Passage.

15, Bell Street.

32, 33, and 34, Canal Street.

55 and 56, Bloomfield Road.

18, 19 and 20, Bradley Street.

4 and 5, Bailey Street.

Of the above houses, 7 were of the “Through” type and the remaining 27 of the “Back-to-Back” type.

During the year 37 houses previously condemned as being unfit for human habitation were demolished.

The following table shows the total number of houses dealt with under the Housing Acts from 1933, the commencement of the slum clearance programme, to 31st December, 1953.

	Total No. of houses	Total No. of houses demolished	Total No. of persons displaced
Clearance Areas	1327	1321	6241
Individual unfit houses and caravans in respect of which Demolition Orders have been made	685	574	2884
Parts of buildings in respect of which Closing Orders have been made ...	16	7	82
Individual unfit houses in respect of which undertakings have been accepted ...	4	—	21
Individual unfit houses and caravans demolished in anticipation of Demolition Orders	24	24	84
TOTAL	2056	1926	9312

Rehousing and Overcrowding.

The number of families provided with a Council house during 1953 was 143, 98 of which were living in overcrowded conditions.

The following table gives a summary of the families rehoused.

	Total No. of families rehoused	Total No. of persons rehoused	No. of cases of overcrowding relieved
Sub-tenants living in private houses ...	31	113	20
Sub-tenants living in Council houses ...	44	150	39
Tenants living in private houses ...	41	198	29
Tenants living in houses condemned under the Housing Act, 1936 ...	27	105	10
Total	143	566	98

The following table shows the approximate average number of persons per house and the average number of persons per room in the Borough.

Year	No. of houses in the Borough.	Average number of persons per house.	Average number of persons per room.
1921	7375	4.63	1.14
1931	7796	4.60	1.11
1946	9308	4.0	0.92
1947	9598	4.0	0.91
1948	9838	3.94	0.91
1949	10037	3.87	0.90
1950	10190	3.85	0.90
1951	10292	3.82	0.89
1952	10415	3.78	0.89
1953	10532	3.73	0.88

The following table gives a brief analysis of the condition of all houses in the Borough and is based on the survey made in 1948, amended by the figures of new houses, houses demolished and houses which have passed into one category from another.

Houses in a satisfactory condition	...	...	8301
Houses requiring minor repairs	...	...	253
Houses requiring major repairs and structural alterations (this includes back-to-back houses convertible into one house)	...	...	897
Houses which are unfit and require demolition			1081
			<u>10532</u>

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

Madam Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1953.

Housing once again presents the major problem and it is gratifying to note that during the year a further 75 sub-tenants have been provided with a Council house, also with a total of 98 cases of overcrowding being relieved, making a total of 332 for the last three years it can be said that the high figure of known overcrowding cases has been considerably reduced. Unfortunately there is still the problem of the houses unfit for human habitation but here again it is interesting to note that since the end of the war, demolition orders have been made in respect of 163 individual houses.

The work of meat inspection at the Ministry of Food Controlled Abattoir and at the bacon and sausage factory situated in the Borough again occupied a considerable portion of the Inspectors' time and the record number of 110,537 animals was killed and inspected as against 103,379 during 1952.

Food hygiene has again been the subject of special concentration and steady progress has been made in improving the standard of hygiene in food premises.

The results of the milk and ice cream samples taken for bacteriological examination are again very good.

The cost of refuse collection still rises, due principally to wages and haulage. The service has been very little affected by labour problems and on the whole has been very efficient.

Comments on other branches of work carried out are given in later pages.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee for their confidence, the Medical Officer of Health for his encouragement and support and the whole of the staff for their able and active co-operation.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

G. H. ACTON.

Chief Sanitary Inspector.

SECTION V.

SECTION V.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE BOROUGH.

The total number of visits and inspections made during the year was 5446 as against 5319 for the previous year.

Summary of Visits and Inspections.

Houses inspected under the Public Health & Housing Acts	307
Re-inspections	1367
Nuisances discovered in course of district inspection ...	152
Slaughterhouses	1089
Offensive trade premises	4
Factories	71
Housing visits re overcrowding, rehousing, demolitions, etc	626
Tents, vans and sheds	17
Markets	41
Dairies	56
Petroleum Regulations (licensed storage premises) ...	133
Defective and obstructed drains	282
Dirty and verminous houses	31
Infectious disease cases	244
Shops under the Shops Act, 1950	168
Shops, canteens etc., re unsound food	181
Premises infested with rats and mice	32
Visits under the Food and Drugs Act	119
Cinemas and Schools	7
Stables	3
Visits re atmosphere pollution	46
Houses re National Assistance Act, 1950	4
Shops re Pet Animals Act	5
Premises re Rag Flock Act	2
Miscellaneous visits	459
Total ...	5446

SMOKE ABATEMENT AND ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

46 visits were paid to factories and other premises in respect of nuisances caused by smoke, grit, dust etc. and the following work carried out at the instigation of this department.

Premises	Nuisance	Result
Iron Foundry	Smoke nuisance	Installation of F.R.S. fire doors to six Lancashire boilers.
Engineering Works	Smoke nuisance	Chimney height extended—improvement in stoking.
Nut & Bolt Works	Smoke nuisance	Burning of oily bags and rags discontinued.
Gas Works	Smoke nuisance	Change over to smokeless fuel.
Metal Recovery Plant	Smoke nuisance	Burning of rubber, etc., discontinued.
Iron Foundry	Grit and dust nuisance from use of pulverized fuel.	Plant for extracting grit, etc., to be installed.
Dairy	Smoke nuisance	Automatic stoker installed.
Iron Foundry	Smoke & fumes nuisance	Cupola house repaired, water sprays to be installed.

Measurement of Atmospheric Pollution.

The recording of atmospheric pollution in co-operation with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research was continued during the year. There are four deposit gauges for collecting deposited matter and seven lead peroxide gauges for measuring the amount of sulphur trioxide (SO_3) present in the atmosphere.

The undermentioned table shows the monthly recordings expressed in tons per square mile from the four deposit gauges.

Month		Baths Queens Road	Grammar School, Alexandra Road	Jubilee Park, Ocker Hill	Leabrook Road
January	...	13.74	30.83	18.28	14.41
February	...	15.05	22.27	12.18	— *
March	...	18.01	23.96	20.18	21.86
April	...	16.21	23.40	16.58	17.39
May	...	22.72	29.17	20.95	27.15
June	...	18.65	22.77	14.71	12.50
July	...	— *	32.96	18.61	19.77
August	...	15.11	27.61	16.68	18.17
September	...	— *	31.69	15.71	14.45
October	...	17.88	36.42	17.24	17.79
November	...	13.04	40.58	16.38	9.88
December	...	13.61	31.93	16.25	17.30
Total Deposit	... (10 months)	164.02	353.59	203.75	190.67 (11 months)
Average monthly deposit	...	16.40	29.46	16.98	17.33

* Containers damaged—analysis not possible.

The heaviest deposit continues to occur at the Alexandra Road site which is adjacent to large industrial undertakings.

The average monthly deposit over the whole of the Borough for the year under review was 20.04 tons per square mile.

Lead Peroxide Gauges — Record of Sulphur Polution.

Monthly recordings of Sulphur Trioxide (SO^3) collected in milligrams per 100 square centimetres per day from seven appliances.

Month	Mount Street School	Baths, Queen's Road	Rear of Coneygre Foundry	Municipal Buildings	Leabrook Road	Jubilee Park	Grammar School, Alexandra Road
January	1.25	1.44	2.25	1.65	1.37	1.33	1.97
February	1.34	1.30	1.36	1.54	1.42	2.04	1.54
March	1.53	1.77	1.67	1.36	1.41	1.46	1.41
April	1.28	1.11	2.11	—*	1.36	1.41	1.92
May	0.84	0.85	1.06	0.72	0.87	0.77	1.16
June	0.67	—*	0.92	0.70	0.73	0.48	0.66
July	0.92	—*	1.02	0.44	0.68	0.78	1.71
August	0.70	0.59	0.91	0.50	0.45	0.68	1.38
September	1.37	1.04	1.58	1.07	0.91	1.12	1.78
October	1.66	1.79	1.99	1.63	1.46	1.62	2.48
November	1.58	1.94	2.48	0.83	1.56	2.12	2.93
December	1.91	2.68	2.57	0.95	2.05	2.27	2.80
Total Deposit	15.05	14.51 (10 mths.)	19.92	11.39 (11 mths.)	14.27	16.08	21.74
Monthly Average	1.25	1.45	1.66	1.04	1.19	1.34	1.81

* Gauge not submitted for analysis due to damage.

The monthly average for the whole of the Borough was 1.39.

Infectious Diseases.

During the year 244 visits have been made to investigate cases of notified infectious diseases, chiefly Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria and Tuberculosis.

Disinfection.

The number of houses disinfected after infectious disease was 152.

Disinfestation.

During the year 216 houses were disinfested. Treatment was by fumigant smoke or liquid insecticide having a D.D.T. base and in certain cases D.D.T. and Gammexane Powder were used.

The household furniture and effects of 72 families from private houses were also disinfested, prior to occupation of Council houses. All bedding etc., was treated in the steam disinfector situated at the Cemetery. In addition, the household effects of 10 families not disinfested were removed into Council Houses.

Complaints.

The number of complaints registered during the year was 989 as against 748 in 1852.

Shops Act, 1950.

168 shops were inspected during the year under the above Act and no outstanding irregularities were discovered.

Offensive Trades.

There are three premises where offensive trade is carried on. These premises were visited at regular intervals and found to be in a satisfactory condition.

Statement of Removal of Sanitary Defects and Nuisances in and around Dwellings etc.

During the year under review, 352 preliminary and 76 statutory notices were served for the abatement of nuisances and the remedy of sanitary defects in and around dwellings and the following table shows the nature of the work actually carried out.

Nature of Work done.

Houses.	No.
Roofs repaired	229
Eavesguttering & rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	75
Chimney stacks repaired	40
External walls rebuilt, repaired or cement rendered ...	26
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	43
Bedrooms and living rooms renovated	3
Dirty houses cleansed	2
Floors repaired or renewed	37
Fixed windows made to open	2
Windows and frames repaired or renewed	61
Windows provided with new sash cords	120
Doors repaired or renewed	17
General house fittings repaired or renewed (boilers, fire-ranges etc.)	11
Staircases repaired or renewed	8
Separate water supply provided	4
Additional wash-houses provided	2
Washing facilities provided	4
Glazed sinks provided in lieu of brick & quarry sills ...	3
Sinks renewed	6
Sink waste pipes renewed	10
Wash-houses rebuilt or repaired	58
Water supply laid on to wash-houses	2
Chimney flues repaired	7
Wash-house coppers, firegrates, etc. renewed	15
Water supply pipes repaired or renewed	27
Covers to cellar areas renewed	3
Verandahs repaired	5

Drainage.

Drains opened and cleansed	...	...	...	...	280
Main drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	1
W.C. branch drains repaired or reconstructed...	...	...	...	...	20
Waste and surface water drains repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	5
Additional inspection chambers installed	...	...	...	...	3
Inspection chambers repaired	...	...	...	...	5
New covers to inspection chambers	...	...	...	...	7
Ventilation pipes renewed or repaired	...	...	...	...	1
Additional gullies to drains provided	...	...	...	...	2
New intercepting and gully traps fitted	...	...	...	...	4

Yards, Passages, etc.

Yard and passage surfaces repaired	...	...	...	...	3
Boundary walls repaired	...	...	...	...	4

Closets.

Additional water closets provided	...	...	...	...	9
W.C. buildings repaired or reconstructed	...	...	...	...	39
New W.C. pedestal pans fitted	...	...	...	...	24
W.C. cisterns repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	28
Flush pipes, water supply pipes etc., repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...	39
Seats to W.C. pans renewed	...	...	...	...	27
Midden privies abolished	...	...	...	...	2
Midden privies converted to water closets	...	...	...	...	2
Urinal stalls reconstructed	...	...	...	...	5

Accumulations.

Offensive accumulations removed	...	...	...	...	8
Stagnant water removed	...	...	...	...	2

General.

Stables limewashed and cleansed	...	...	...	...	2
Keeping of animals so as to be a nuisance discontinued	...	...	...	...	2
Housing of caravans so as to be a nuisance discontinued	...	...	...	...	2
Burning of trade refuse discontinued	...	...	...	...	3
Emission of noxious effluvia discontinued	...	...	...	...	3
Sorting of rags on premises discontinued	...	...	...	...	1

Results of Legal Proceedings.

Situation of Premises	Nature of Complaint	Acts under which proceedings were Instituted	Result
22, Lindley Avenue	House Defects	Public Health Act, 1936.	Work completed
34, Lindley Avenue	" "	" "	" "
"Rosedale", New Street	" "	" "	" Nuisance Order granted. Costs 12/6. Failure to comply with Nuisance Order, Fined £2 with costs. Work completed.
3, New Street.	" "	" "	" Nuisance Order granted. Costs 12/6 Work Completed

Water Supply.

In accordance with Ministry of Health Circular, the following report is submitted on the water supply in Tipton.

The public water supply is derived from the South Staffordshire Waterworks Company.

The water received is satisfactory in quality and quantity and is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.

Bacteriological examinations and chemical analyses of 48 samples of water were made and found to be satisfactory.

The following is summary of the number of houses and the proportion of population supplied with water direct to houses or washhouses and by means of stand pipes.

		Proportion of Houses	Proportion of Population
(a)	Direct to houses	90.9%	88.4%
(b)	By means of stand pipes 2.5		
	Laid on to washhouses 6.6	9.1%	11.6%

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

(a) Surface Treatment.

Rodent control is dealt with by one trained operative. The following is a summary of the work carried out during the year under review.

					Number of Premises	Number of Treatments	Number of dead rats found
Business and industrial premises ...					28	51	136
Dwelling houses					79	94	24
Local Authority's premises (excluding Council houses)					20	58	96
Total					127	203	256

(b) Sewer Treatment.

Two maintenance treatments of the sewers were carried out and this involved the baiting of 225 manholes. The results obtained show again that rat infestation of the sewers was relatively light.

Petroleum Act.

99 premises are licensed to store petroleum spirit and mixtures in the area, the total amount licensed being 83,425 gallons.

10 licenses for the storage of Calcium Carbide were issued, the total amount licensed being 2,007 tons.

Factories Act, 1937.

The following tables give details of inspections made and action taken in connection with the above Act.

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Number of Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories				
With mechanical power	156	39	26	—
Without mechanical power	10	8	5	—
TOTAL	166	47	31	—

Cases in Which Defects Were Found.

Particulars	Number of Defects		No. of offences	
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted
Want of Cleanliness ...	2	2	—	—
Inadequate ventilation ...	1	1	—	—
Defective drainage of floors	2	2	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :—				
(a) Insufficient ...	6	3	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	24	17	—	—
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—
TOTAL	36	25	—	—

Outworkers.

During the year two lists were received from firms employing 385 outworkers. The work carried out by these outworkers was the carding of hooks, buttons, etc.

SECTION VI.

SECTION VI.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Meat Inspection.

The total number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year under review was 110,537 as against 103,379 during 1952. This increase is mainly accounted for by the extra number of pigs killed at the Bacon and Sausage factory situated in the Borough.

The percentage of the number affected with tuberculosis again shows a decline, and this is especially noticeable in respect of pigs. The incidence of tuberculosis in pigs inspected dropped to the low figure of 2.9, as against 4.19 during 1952, 5.14 in 1951 and 10.3 for 1942. The percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis shows a slight increase, and the number of animals inspected which were affected with parasitic diseases still remains very high.

The amount of meat condemned totalled approximately 167 tons. All the condemned meat from the Abattoir is disposed of to a knacker's yard and thoroughly impregnated with a coloured dye before removal.

The following table shows the total carcasses inspected and the number condemned and the carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned at the Abattoir (catering for the Municipal Boroughs of Oldbury, Rowley Regis, Tipton and the County Borough of West Bromwich) and the Bacon and Sausage Factory situated in the Borough.

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

			Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	...	...	6,284 (6,368)	3,144 (2,970)	2,650 (2,559)	31,974 (31,568)	66,485 (59,914)
Number inspected	...	...	6,284 (6,368)	3,144 (2,970)	2,650 (2,559)	31,974 (31,568)	66,485 (59,914)
All diseases except Tuberculosis.							
Whole carcasses condemned			3 (3)	37 (31)	147 (71)	96 (80)	147 (81)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned			937 (804)	1,164 (1,041)	43 (40)	2,477 (2,237)	3,411 (2,520)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than tuber- culosis	...	...	14.91 (12.78)	37.00 (35.05)	1.62 (1.56)	7.74 (7.08)	5.13 (4.20)
Tuberculosis Only.							
Whole carcasses condemned			18 (16)	79 (76)	4 (3)	— (—)	52 (52)
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned			546 (655)	924 (960)	4 (2)	— (—)	1,928 (2,512)
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	...	...	8.68 (10.28)	29.38 (32.35)	0.15 (0.07)	— (—)	2.90 (4.19)

Figures in brackets are 1952 figures.

Table showing meat condemned from 9,428 cattle slaughtered during 1953.

Disease	Whole Car-	Mesenteries and Intestines							Other Parts
		Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	
	cases	668	1526	328	411	536	400	214	1044
Tuberculosis	...	91	6	6	6	6	6	12	6
Tuberculosis with Emaciation	...	6	176	—	887	—	—	—	—
Parasitic Diseases	...	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	...	—	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
Emphysema	...	—	21	—	299	—	8	3	9
Abscesses	...	—	128	—	—	—	12	—	—
Pleurisy	...	—	5	—	2	—	—	—	—
Congestion	...	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—
Neoplasms	...	—	9	—	2	—	—	—	—
Melanosis	...	—	—	—	54	—	—	—	—
Fatty Infiltration	...	—	—	—	451	—	—	—	—
Telangiectasis	...	—	—	—	73	5	28	—	—
Peritonitis	...	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Bac. Necrosis	...	—	—	90	—	—	—	—	—
Pericarditis	...	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Myocarditis & Endocarditis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nephritis and Hydronephrosis	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anaemia	...	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	12
Dropsy and Emaciation	...	17	17	17	17	17	17	34	17
Septicaemia	...	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5
Septic Peritonitis	...	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2
Imperfect Bleeding and Ext.	...	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2
Bruising	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
Jaundice
TOTAL		136	871	1948	466	2237	586	493	1089
		551							

Table showing meat condemned from 2,650 calves slaughtered during 1953.

Disease	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Intestines
Congenital Tuberculosis
Immaturity
Jaundice
Umbilical Pyaemia
Hydraemia
Septic Pneumonia
Anaemia
Congestion and Imperfect Bleeding
Abscesses
Melanosis
TOTALS

Table showing meat condemned from 66,485 pigs slaughtered during 1953.

Disease	Car- cases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Stomachs	Spleens	Kidneys	Mesenteries and Intestines		Other Parts
Tuberculosis	1400	17	Forequarters— Localised Tuberculosis
Pleurisy, Pericarditis, Peritonitis & Pneumonia	1631	1631	935	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cirrhosis, Hydatid Cysts, etc.	—	—	1176	—	—	—	—	6	Legs— Localised Tuberculosis
Fatty Infiltration	—	—	119	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bac. Necrosis	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	7	Shoulders— Localised Tuberculosis
Hydronephrosis	—	—	—	—	—	140	—	—	—
Nephritis	—	—	—	—	—	50	—	—	—
Abscesses	...	33	—	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Swine Erysipelas	...	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	34	Legs— Fractured
Septic Peritonitis	...	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—	—
Jaundice	...	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	12	—	—
Septicaemia	...	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	12	179	Hocks— Arthritis
Imperfect Bleeding and Extensive Bruising	...	8	8	8	8	8	8	16	8	—	—
Emaciation (Pathological)	...	12	12	12	12	12	12	24	12	11	Forequarters— Sepsis Fractures, etc.
Pyæmia	...	6	6	6	6	6	6	12	6	—	—
Acute Bilateral Pyelonephritis	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—
Malignant Neoplasms	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	3	Hindquarters— Localised Tuberculosis, Abscesses etc.
Uraemia	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—
Gangrenous Pneumonia	...	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	—	—
Decomposition	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—
General Dropsy...	...	15	15	15	15	15	15	30	15	—	—
Tetanus	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—
Septic Metritis	...	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—	—
Swine Fever	...	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—	—
Dead in transit or in Lairage...	...	61	61	61	61	61	61	122	61	—	—
TOTALS	...	199	2292	2573	2573	3196	306	602	1586	—	—

Table showing meat condemned from 31,974 sheep slaughtered during 1953.

Disease	Carcases	Heads	Lungs	Hearts	Livers	Spleens	Stomachs	Kidneys	Intestines	Portions
Muelleriasis ...	...	—	320	—	—	—	—	—	—	4 Shanks
Pleurisy, Pneumonia and Peritonitis ...	—	—	84	84	84	—	—	—	—	Abscesses
Pericarditis ...	—	—	—	60	—	—	—	—	—	12 Breasts
Hydatid Cysts ...	—	—	750	750	1150	750	—	—	—	Abscesses etc.
Fascialiasis ...	—	—	—	—	420	—	—	—	—	—
Other Parasitic Conditions ...	—	—	—	—	500	—	—	—	—	5 Legs
Abscesses etc ...	—	17	51	51	51	51	—	—	—	Fracture, Abscesses, etc.
Dropsy and Emaciation ...	61	61	61	61	61	61	61	122	61	—
Pyæmia ...	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	10	5	—
Acute Congestion ...	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	7	—
Anaemia ...	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	6	3	11 Shoulders
Septicaemia ...	7	7	7	7	7	7	7	14	7	Bruising etc.
Jaundice ...	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	2	1	—
Imperfect Bleeding ...	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	4	2	—
Died in Transit ...	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	12	6	—
TOTALS	92	109	1297	1037	2297	977	92	184	92	92

The total amount of food condemned as being unfit for human consumption was as follows :—

Description of Food						Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	Lbs.
Meat from Abattoir and Sausage and Bacon Curing Factory						166	16	1	5
Bacon	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	14
Beef and Mutton	...	...	...	...	...	—	8	0	0
Sausages	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	2	23
Butter	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	2	0
Cheese	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	11
Dried Fruit	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	3	8
Canned and Bottled Goods—									
Meat	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	2	10
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	3	22
Fish	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	15
Peas	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	0	4
Beans	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	2	15
Tomatoes	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	1	12
Plums	...	...	...	...	...	—	4	0	15
Cherries	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	0	26
Grapes	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	3	16
Apples	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	6
Damsons	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	20
Strawberries	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	10
Prunes	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	17
Other Fruits	...	...	...	...	...	—	1	0	6
Jams	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	1	15
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	—	—	—	12
TOTAL						168	3	2	2

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

There are 43 persons with licences granted previously by the Local Authority to slaughter animals. During the year 2 new Licences were granted, making a total of 45 licences.

FOOD PREMISES.

The number and type of food premises in the Borough is summarised below.

Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17
Factory Canteens	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	27
Licensed premises where meals are served on the premises									12
Fish Friers	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	38
Butchers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39
Other premises (provisions, confectioners, greengrocery)									262

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act is —

Number of premises registered for the sale and manufacture of Ice Cream (Heat Treated)	...	...	...	2
Number of premises registered for the sale and manufacture of Ice Cream (Cold Mix)	...	...	...	4
Number of premises registered for Ice Cream (Sale only)				101
Number of "Fish Frier" premises registered	...	...	...	38
Number of premises registered for the manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, preserved or pickled foods				6

INSPECTION OF FOOD PREMISES.

A total of 175 premises where food is either prepared, stored or sold were inspected during the year.

The number of premises found not to be up to the standard required under the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, was 27 and the following is a summary of the work carried out at the instigation of this department.

Re-decoration and cleansing	...	...	...	...	11
Repairs to walls, floors etc	...	...	...	...	4
Premises provided with hot water supply	...	...	...	...	10
Premises provided with adequate washing facilities	...	...	...	...	4
Food storage rooms repaired and renovated...	...	...	...	...	4
Improved ventilation provided	...	...	...	...	2
Additional sanitary accomodation provided	...	...	...	...	2
Additional sinks installed	...	...	...	...	4
Defective sanitary conveniences repaired	...	...	...	...	2
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	7

Ice Cream.

Practically the whole of the ice cream manufactured in the Borough is heat treated and the method of manufacture is in accordance with the Regulations.

During the year 83 samples of ice cream manufactured inside and outside the Borough were submitted for bacteriological examination and the following table gives a summary of the results.

	Type of Mix	No. of samples taken	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4
Produced in the Borough	Heat Treated	29	22	4	2	1
	Cold Mix	6	6	—	—	—
Produced outside the Borough	Heat Treated	48	33	14	1	—
	Cold Mix	—	—	—	—	—
TOTAL		83	61	18	3	1

Grade 1 — Good
 Grade 2 — Satisfactory
 Grade 3 — Poor
 Grade 4 — Unsatisfactory

The results of samples of ice cream taken for bacteriological examination again show improvement over the samples taken during the preceding year and it is very pleasing to note the high standard of cleanliness obtained today in the manufacture of this commodity.

The fat content of samples examined ranged from a minimum of 7.9% to a maximum of 13.8%.

Milk Supply.

There are three dairies registered under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949. With the introduction of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Area) Order, 1952, all the milk retailed in the Borough is now designated and bottled.

99 samples of milk were obtained by this Authority during the year for bacteriological examination and the results are shown in the following table.

Designation	No. of samples	Tests Applied	Result	
			Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Pasteurised	29	Methylene Blue	29	—
		Phosphatase	29	—
		Phenol-Phthalein	29	—
Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised)	27	Methylene Blue	26	1
		Phosphatase	27	—
		Phenol-Phthalein	27	—
Sterilised	41	Turbidity	41	—
Tuberculin Tested (Raw)	2	Methylene Blue	2	—

It will be observed from the above table that the samples of milk examined for efficiency of heat treatment (phosphatase test) were 100% and only one sample failed the Methylene Blue Test (keeping quality).

The following licences were issued under the Milk (Special Designations) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949.

Dealers Licences.

Pasteurised	...	...	...	3
Sterilised	...	...	...	3

Supplementary Licences.

Pasteurised	11
Sterilised	11

Retailing Shopkeepers.

Sterilised	166
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Licensed Premises.

During the year a survey of licensed premises in the Borough was undertaken and attention directed to facilities for washing receptacles, catering on premises and general sanitary conditions. The following work was carried out at the instigation of this department.

Nature of work carried out	No. of Premises
Sanitary accommodation repaired and additional water closets provided	2
Defective water closets repaired	7
Flushing facilities provided to urinals	3
Drainage system reconstructed	2
Provision of hot water to bar servery	2
Additional sinks provided	2
Premises repaired and redecorated	1

SECTION VII.

SECTION VII — PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The work covered by this section is for the financial year April, 1953 to March, 1954. From the cost statement it will be seen that the net cost of this service (collection and disposal) is £17,602, an increase of £426 over the previous year. This amount is entirely due to increase in wages from awards made by the National Joint Council.

Refuse Collection.

The transport used for the collection of refuse is the same as given in the Annual Report for the previous year and the average period between collection of refuse was again of 6 to 7 working days. The collection has been satisfactory and very little difficulty was experienced in this branch of the work of the Cleansing Department. The weight of refuse collected shows a very slight increase (190 tons) over the previous year which is mainly accounted for by the increased number of houses.

Bin Provision.

The number of new bins distributed during the year and which are provided free of charge by the Local Authority was 955, allocated as follows :—

Council Houses	...	...	433
Private Houses	...	...	522

Disposal of Refuse.

The disposal of household and trade refuse on the Gospel Oak Tip continues to be by means of controlled tipping. The expenditure incurred was £2,756 as against £2,852 during the previous year. The main item of expenditure in this work of disposal is for haulage required to obtain suitable covering material for the tip. The condition of the tip is satisfactory and no infestations have occurred during the year.

The following is a COST STATEMENT for the Collection and Disposal of House and Trade Refuse for the 12 months ending March, 1954. Figures for the previous year are given in brackets.

Particulars	Collection	Disposal.	Total
REVENUE ACCOUNT	£	£	£
1. GROSS EXPENDITURE			
(a) Labour	9,267 (9,067)	1,532 (1,643)	10,799 (10,710)
(b) Transport	7,846 (7,777)	738 (631)	8,584 (8,408)
(c) Plant Equipment, land and buildings	344 (260)	486 (578)	830 (838)
(d) Other items	— (51)	— (—)	— (51)
(e) Total gross expenditure ...	17,457 (17,155)	2,756 (2,852)	20,213 (20,007)
2. GROSS INCOME	697 (603)	1,914 (2,228)	2,611 (2,831)
3. NET COST	16,760 (16,552)	842 (624)	17,602 (17,176)
4. Capital expenditure met from revenue	—	—	—
5. UNIT COSTS	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Gross cost per ton, labour only ...	14 4	2 5	16 9
6. Gross cost per ton, transport only ...	12 2	1 2	13 4
7. Net cost (all expenditure) per ton ...	1 5 11	1 4	1 7 3
	£	£	£
8. Net cost per 1,000 population ...	427	21.5	448.5
9. Net cost per 1,000 premises ...	1,591	80	1,671

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.

Area (statute acres)	2,167
Population at 30th June, 1953	39,250
Total refuse collected in tons	12,912
Weight (cwts) per 1,000 population per day...	18.2
Number of premises from which refuse is collected	10,532
Average haul (miles by collecting vehicle to disposal point)	2.5
Frequency of collection	6 to 7 working days
Kerbside collection expressed as estimated percentage of total collection	Nil
Total refuse disposed of (tons)	12,912
Method of disposal — controlled tipping ...	100%

Street Cleansing.

This service has been carried out by two Mechanical Sweepers and 7 street orderlies. The additional mechanical sweeper put into operation during the year has enabled the street cleansing service to carry out the work more efficiently and more regularly and the total miles of streets cleansed has increased considerably during the year.

The following details of the work of the Mechanical Sweepers are summarised below.

No. of Working Days.	No. of Loads collected.	Weight of street sweepings deposited on the Tip.
270	574	544 tons

The cost of street sweeping for the year (£6161) shows an increase of £739 over the previous year and this again is mainly due to increased wages.

The following is the COST STATEMENT for street and gully cleansing for the 12 months ending March, 1954. Figures for the previous year are given in brackets.

Particulars	Street Sweeping and Watering	Street Gully Cleansing	Total
REVENUE ACCOUNT	£	£	£
1. GROSS EXPENDITURE			
(a) Labour	3,561 (3,221)	— (7)	3,561 (3,228)
(b) Transport	2,532 (2,123)	846 (1,142)	3,378 (3,265)
(c) Plant Equipment, building etc. ...	68 (78)	31 (1)	99 (79)
(d) Other items	—	—	—
Total gross expenditure	6,161 (5,422)	877 (1,150)	7,038 (6,572)
2. GROSS INCOME (excl. reimbursements from Ministry of Transport and the County Council)	5 (5)	5 (5)	10 (10)
3. NET COST	6,156 (5,417)	872 (1,145)	7,028 (6,562)
4. Capital expenditure met from revenue	—	—	—
5. Gross expenditure on snow clearance not included previously	454 (839)	— (—)	454 (839)
6. UNIT COSTS	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Net cost per street mile cleansed ...	1 6 11	—	—
	£	£	£
7. Net cost per 1,000 street gullies cleansed	—	250.3	—
8. Net cost per 1,000 population	156.8	22.2	179

OPERATIONAL STATISTICS

Mileage of streets cleansed ...	...	...	...	39.2
Frequency of cleansing				
(a) At least once daily	...	...	...	7.0%
(b) Three times weekly	...	...	...	8.0%
(c) Twice weekly	...	...	...	17.2%
(d) Once weekly	...	...	...	67.8%
Total miles cleansed	...	...	...	4555
Number of gullies cleansed during the year			...	1706

SALVAGE OF WASTE MATERIAL.

A separate collection of waste paper was continued from factories, shops and other business premises and a modified scheme of house-to-house collection is carried out by one female employee.

The following table shows the monthly tonnage of waste materials salvaged during the year ending March, 1954 and the income received from same. The total amount of salvage material obtained was 336 tons.

SALVAGE RETURN.

Month	Waste Paper. Tons. Cwts.		Scrap Metal. Tons. Cwts.		Textiles. Tons. Cwts.		Kitchen Waste. Tons. Cwts.		Total Income £
April	16	—	1	19	—	5	5	11	137
May	20	8	1	13	—	5	9	18	201
June	16	18	3	—	—	3	7	9	154
July	7	17	1	14	—	5	7	12	91
August	36	14	—	17	—	3	3	15	294
September	7	13	1	19	—	4	9	1	95
October	23	18	—	12	—	4	11	5	227
November	16	3	2	3	—	5	9	5	179
December	20	4	—	6	—	13	6	6	190
January	14	17	3	13	—	—	9	4	151
February	10	17	1	15	—	9	8	2	124
March	26	10	—	19	—	—	7	16	240
Total	217	19	20	10	2	16	95	4	2083



